Alaulan Paul alagia (ahlin feh)
Alaulan Masari (

I'VE BEEN WANTING TO GET TOGETHER FOR YOU FOR A LONG
TIME. IT'S GOOD TO BE HERE. AFTER THAT GENEROUS INTRODUCTION,
I CAN HARDLY WAIT TO HEAR WHAT I HAVE TO SAY.

MORE SERIOUSLY, I HOPE TO HEAR MORE FROM YOU TODAY THAN
YOU WILL HEAR FROM ME. AS YOU MAY KNOW, I HAVE BEEN GRANTED
MY REQUEST TO SERVE AGAIN AS A MEMBER OF THE SENATE AGRICULTURE
COMMITTEE. I VERY MUCH WELCOME THE CHANCE TO LEARN WHAT MAY
BE ON YOUR MINDS. I'M ONLY GOING TO TALK FOR A FEW MOMENTS NOW---THEN I HOPE WE CAN SPEND MOST OF OUR TIME TALKING BACK AND FORTH
ABOUT AGRICULTURE, AND ABOUT ANY OTHER MATTER OF NATIONAL POLICY
WHICH CONCERNS YOU.

TO BEGIN, LET ME SHARE ONE OR TWO THOUGHTS.

AS YOU KNOW, I'M FROM RURAL SOUTH DAKOTA, MURIEL AND I GREW UP IN HARD TIMES AND DUST STORMS. AND ALL MY LIFE I'VE WORKED WITH, AND FOR, DAIRY FAMILIES. I FEEL AT HOME HERE.

OVER THE YEARS, I'VE LEARNED ONE OR TWO POLITICAL LESSONS

TOO. I'VE LEARNED FOR INSTANCE THAT FARM PEOPLE AND FARM FAMILIES

ARE LAST AT THE TABLE---UNLESS THEY STAND UP FOR THEMSELVES, AND

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UNLESS THEY STAND UP FOR THE PEOPLE IN WASHINGTON AND ELSEWHERE

WHO ARE WILLING TO SUPPORT THEM.

AS YOU KNOW ALL TOO WELL, LESS THAN 5 PER CENT OF OUR PEOPLE NOW LIVE ON FARMS. LIF YOU MAKE IT DAIRY FARMS...IT'S

NOW JUST HOW ON EARTH CAN 5 PER CENT, OR ONE PER CENT,

F THE AMERICAN PEOPLE --- NO MATTER HOW VITAL THEY ARE TO OUR

NATIONAL WELFARE --- HOW CAN THEY PROTECT THEIR INTERESTS?

THE FIRST, AND OBVIOUS, WAY IS TO STICK TOGETHER.

I SAY OBVIOUS. BUT THOUGH IT'S OBVIOUS, FARM PEOPLE JUST

HAVEN'T STUCK TOGETHER --- AT LEAST IN THE PAST.

BUT THAT'S WHAT A COOPERATIVE IS ALL ABOUT. IT MEANS

I'VE WATCHED THE WORK OVER THE PAST FEW

YEARS OF DI...ASSOCIATED MILK PRODUCERS...MID-AMERICA

., AND OTHERS. THOSE ORGANIZATIONS HAVE ACCOMPLISHED

WHAT COULD NEVER HAVE BEEN DONE WITHOUT THEM. AND, IF YOU

GET TOGETHER EVEN MORE THAN YOU HAVE --- INCLUDING THROUGH MERGER-

I BELIEVE YOU CAN DO EVEN BETTER.

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I THINK YOU RECOGNIZE THAT, BY WORKING AND JOINING TOGETHER, YOU CAN EXERT LEVERAGE ON NATIONAL POLICY --- BOTH IN THE EXECUTIVE AND LEGISLATIVE BRANCHES --- THAT YOU COULD NEVER EXERT ALONE. AND, BELIEVE ME, WITHOUT THAT LEVERAGE --- WHICH COMES FROM STRENGTH AND UNITY --- NO ORGANIZATION, IN AGRICULTURE, BUSINESS OR LABOR, CAN HOPE TO HAVE ITS VOICE EFFECTIVELY HEARD. I'VE SEEN ANOTHER THING IN RECENT MONTHS AND YEARS. THIS YOU ARE LEARNING THE LESSON OF THE "TOTAL MARKET COUNTRY OF OURS HAS SHRUNK. MODERN COMMUNICATION HAS DONE IT. IF WE DIDN'T KNOW IT BEFORE, WE KNOW NOW THAT NATIONAL POLICY DECISIONS ARE BASED ON TOTAL NATIONAL DEMAND FOR MILK...ON TOTAL TOTAL NATIONAL PRODUCTION. SURPLUS TO BE PURCHASED BY CCC... JUST TO SEE THIS IN PERSPECTIVE, LET ME POINT OUT THAT IN MY STATE OF MINNESOTA ABOUT 10 BILLION POUNDS OF MILK WAS PRODUCED LAST YEAR. WHILE 8 BILLION POUNDS OF THIS WAS INELIGIBLE FOR FLUID MARKET, IT WILL EVENTUALLY FIND A WAY TO SHARE HIGHER VALUED FLUID SALES. LAST YEAR IN MY NEIGHBORING STATE OF WISCONSIN,

18 BILLION POUNDS OF MILK WAS PRODUCED --- 10 BILLION POUNDS INELIGIBLE

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world mitt-4- Tapan - Japan -

FOR FLUID MARKET. IF DAIRY FARMERS WORK TOGETHER---THROUGH
WELL MANAGED AND WELL CAPITALIZED ORGANIZATIONS----THEY CAN FIND
THE BEST METHOD TO ENABLE THIS MILK TO SHARE HIGHER VALUED FLUID

LEVELS.

AS I SAID, LAST YEAR ABOUT 28 BILLION POUNDS OF MILK

SALES, AND IN AN ORDERLY MANNER WHICH DOES NOT DESTROY PRICE

WERE PRODUCED IN WISCONSIN AND MINNESOTA. AS I UNDERSTAND IT,

IN DI'S R AREA OF OPERATIONS, ONLY ABOUT 121 BILLION POUNDS

OF MILK WERE PRODUCED - For less than '2 of this.

I THINK IT IS OBVIOUS THAT THERE WOULD BE ADVANTAGES

IN WORKING TOGETHER, .. ADVANTAGES FOR YOU AND FOR THE PEOPLE UP NORTH.

YOU NEED CAPITAL. YOU NEED SPECIALISTS IN MARKETING,

IN THE LAW, IN GOVERNMENTAL AND PUBLIC RELATIONS YOU NEED

TO UPGRADE YOUR PROCESSING AND TRANSPORATION SYSTEMS. YOU

NEED TO CONTINUE YOUR EFFORTS TO DEVELOP NEW PRODUCTS AND TO

MEET CONSUMER TASTES. YOU NEED BETTER SUPPLY MANAGEMENT.

ALL OF THESE THINGS CAN BE DONE IF YOU WORK FROM A BROADER

BASE. FEW OF THEM CAN BE DONE ON A PURELY REGIONAL LEVEL.

WELL, IT SHOULD BE CLEAR BY NOW THAT I THINK YOU'VE GOT

Needs

SOMETHING GOING FOR YOU IN YOUR MOVEMENT TOWARD COOPERATION AND MERGER.

YOUR DI LEADERS KNOW HOW I FEEL ABOUT THAT. SO DO MY GOOD FRIENDS HAROLD NELSON AND DAVE PARR OF AMPI.

I HOPE YOU CONTINUE THAT TREND. I SUPPORT IT.

NOW, FINALLY, LET ME SAY ONE MORE THING. THERE'S ANOTHER POLITICAL LESSON I'VE LEARNED...AND IT'S REALLY AN EXEMPTION OF THE FIRST ONE.

FARM PEOPLE CAN'T GET ANYWHERE UNLESS THEY STICK
TOGETHER... GET ANYWHERE UNLESS THEY FIND ALLIES
ELSEWHERE.

YOU'VE ALREADY BEGUN TO DO IT...BUT L. HOPE Y.L. FIN

MORE ACTIVE IN WORKING WITH BUSINESS AND LABOR ORGANIZATIONS...

WITH CITY PEOPLE AND CONSUMER GROUPS...IN SHORT, WITH OTHER PEOPLE

WHO CAN HELP YOU REALIZE YOUR OBJECTIVES.

YOU KNOW, THIS COUNTRY HAS RROBLEMS WHICH PEOPLE EVERYWHERE SHARE----TOO MUCH HUNGER, NOT ENOUGH HOUSING, PEOPLE UNEMPLOYED OR UNDEREMPLOYED, WHOLE REGIONS AND SECTORS OF THE ECONOMY WHICH HAVE

BEEN DISCRIMINATED AGAINST OR LEFT BEHIND, THE NEED FOR BETTER SCHOOLS.

ALL OF US EVERYWHERE HAVE TO TAKE OFF OUR BLINDERS.

IF DAIRY PEOPLE HAVE LEARNED THE LESSON OF THE "TOTAL MARKET,"

THEN THIS WHOLE COUNTRY NEEDS TO LEARN THE LESSON THAT IT'S

ONE COUNTRY.

I THINK PRESIDENT NIXON MADE SENSE IN 1969 WHEN HE

SAID HE WOULD "BRING US TOGETHER." I WON'T BE CRITICAL HERE

OF ANY SHORTCOMINGS I'VE SEEN IN THAT REGARD, BUT I STILL

DO THINK WE NEED TO COME TOGETHER....FARM PEOPLE AND CITY PEOPLE...

NORTH AND SOUTH AND WEST...LABOR PEOPLE AND STORE PEOPLE...BLACK

PEOPLE AND WHITE PEOPLE WHO BELIEVE THAT WE CAN ALL BUILD THIS

COUNTRY AND MAKE IT BETTER----PEACEFULLY AND WITHOUT TURNING

AGAINST EACH OTHER.

ANYWAY, I THINK WE CAN ALL DO A BETTER JOB OF HELPING

ONE ANOTHER. AND WHEN WE DO, I THINK WE'LL ALL HAVE FAITH AGAIN

THAT THIS COUNTRY'S BEST DAYS ARE STILL AHEAD.

I'VE SAID ENOUGH. NOW LET ME HEAR FROM YOU. ANY QUESTIONS?

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